

amount of \$222 to cover the fee of \$54 for 6 excess total claims and to cover the fee of \$168 for 4 excess independent claims. If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0573.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice to the filing of a continuing application.

Please amend claims 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18 as follows.

- E1**
5. (twice amended) A method of binding to a laminin receptor as an antagonist, the method comprising the steps of:
    - a) administering a medicament comprising a peptide factor comprising amino acid residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor wherein the peptide factor is modified such that at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue is substituted with a tyrosine analogue or at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue is substituted with an arginine analogue, and
    - b) binding the peptide factor to the laminin receptor.
  6. (twice amended) A method of binding to a laminin receptor as an agonist, the method comprising the steps of:
    - a) administering a medicament comprising a peptide factor comprising amino acid residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor wherein the peptide factor is modified such that at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue is substituted with a tyrosine analogue or at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue is substituted with an arginine analogue, and
    - b) binding the peptide factor to the laminin receptor.
  7. (twice amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said medicament is for treating endothelial cell wounding.
  8. (twice amended) The method according to claim 6 wherein said medicament is for treating retinopathy of prematurity.

13. (once amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine residue is substituted by tetrahydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid.

E2 14. (once amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the murine epidermal growth factor arginine residue is substituted by Citrulline.

EB 16. (once amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine residue is substituted by tetrahydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid.

17. (once amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the murine epidermal growth factor arginine residue is substituted by Citrulline.

18. (once amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said medicament is for treatment of retinopathy of prematurity.

Please add the following new claims 19 to 27:

E4 19. (new) A peptide factor comprising amino acid residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor, wherein

a) the peptide factor is modified by at least one first modification and optionally by at least one second modification; and

b) the peptide factor binds laminin receptors,

wherein said first modification is selected from the group consisting of: substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue with a tyrosine analogue and substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue with an arginine analogue; and

wherein said second modification is selected from the group consisting of: chemical modification of the N terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of the C terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor amino acid residue by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of a murine epidermal growth factor cysteine residue thiol

group by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety to the cysteine residue thiol group; replacement of a peptide bond with a protease-resistant peptide bond isostere, replacement of a glycine residue with  $\alpha\alpha$ -dialkyl substituted amino acid; and stabilisation of a helical turn of the peptide using suitable intra chain linkers.

20. (new) A peptide factor comprising amino acid residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor, wherein

a) the peptide factor is modified by at least one first modification and by at least one second modification; and

b) the peptide factor binds laminin receptors,

wherein said first modification is selected from the group consisting of: substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue with a tyrosine analogue and substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue with an arginine analogue; and

wherein said second modification is selected from the group consisting of: chemical modification of the N terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of the C terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor amino acid residue by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of a murine epidermal growth factor cysteine residue thiol group by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety to the cysteine residue thiol group; replacement of a peptide bond with a protease-resistant peptide bond isostere, replacement of a glycine residue with  $\alpha\alpha$ -dialkyl substituted amino acid; and stabilisation of a helical turn of the peptide using suitable intra chain linkers.

21. (new) A peptide factor comprising amino acid residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor, wherein

a) the peptide factor is modified by a modification selected from the group consisting of substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue with a tyrosine analogue and substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue with an arginine analogue, and

b) the peptide factor binds to laminin receptors.

22. (new) The peptide factor according to claim 19, wherein the murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue is substituted by tetrahydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid.
23. (new) The peptide factor according to claim 19 wherein the murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue is substituted by Citrulline.
24. (new) A method of binding to a laminin receptor as an antagonist; the method comprising the steps of:
- a) administering a medicament comprising a peptide factor,
- wherein the peptide factor is modified by at least one first modification and optionally by at least one second modification;
- wherein said first modification is selected from the group consisting of: substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue with a tyrosine analogue and substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue with an arginine analogue; and
- wherein said second modification is selected from the group consisting of: chemical modification of the N terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of the C terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor amino acid residue by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of a murine epidermal growth factor cysteine residue thiol group by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety to the cysteine residue thiol group; replacement of a peptide bonds with protease-resistant peptide bond isosteres, replacement of a glycine residue with  $\alpha\alpha$ -dialkyl substituted amino acid; and stabilisation of a helical turn of the peptide using suitable intra chain linkers; and
- b) binding the peptide factor to the laminin receptor.

25. (new) A method of binding to a laminin receptor as an agonist, the method comprising the steps of

a) administering a medicament comprising a peptide factor,

wherein the peptide factor is modified by at least one first modification and optionally by at least one second modification;

wherein said first modification is selected from the group consisting of: substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor tyrosine amino acid residue with a tyrosine analogue and substitution of at least one murine epidermal growth factor arginine amino acid residue with an arginine analogue; and

wherein said second modification is selected from the group consisting of: chemical modification of the N terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of the C terminal of the murine epidermal growth factor amino acid residue by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety; chemical modification of a murine epidermal growth factor cysteine residue thiol group by the addition of an amino acid capping moiety to the cysteine residue thiol group; replacement of a peptide bond with a protease-resistant peptide bond isostere, replacement of a glycine residue with  $\alpha\alpha$ -dialkyl substituted amino acid; and stabilisation of a helical turn of the peptide using suitable intra chain linkers; and

b) binding the peptide factor to the laminin receptor.

26. (new) The method according to claim 25 wherein said medicament is for treating endothelial cell wounding.

27. (new) The method according to claim 25 wherein said medicament is for treatment of retinopathy of prematurity.

### Remarks

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claim 11 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18 have been amended.

Applicants have the following comments on the Examiner's objections and rejections.

### Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1 to 18 are rejected as being indefinite.